UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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10/019,988	07/24/2002	Brian Evan McGinnis	3COM 2487-3US	5980

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EXAMINER
SCUDERI, PHILIP S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2153	

DATE MAILED: 04/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

<table>
<tr>
<td rowspan="2">Office Action Summary</td>
<td>Application No.</td>
<td>Applicant(s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/019,988</td>
<td>MCGINNIS ET AL.</td>
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<td>Examiner</td>
<td>Art Unit</td>
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<td>Philip S. Scuderi</td>
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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>24 July 2002</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-63</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-63</u> is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) <u>10,12,16,18,36,40,42 and 44</u> is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>24 July 2002</u> is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1.   The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Objections

2.   Claims 12 and 36 are objected to because of the following informalities: "connecting to synchronization server". Examiner suggests "connecting to the synchronization server". Appropriate correction is required.

3.   Claims 16 and 40 are objected to because of the following informalities: "using an encryption". Examiner suggests "using encryption" or "using an encryption protocol". Appropriate correction is required.

4.   Claims 18 and 42 are objected to because of the following informalities: "wherein transmitting and receiving including". Examiner suggests "wherein the transmitting and receiving include". Appropriate correction is required.

5.   Claims 20 and 44 are objected to because of the following informalities: "variable length strains". Examiner suggests "variable length strings". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

6.   The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

7.   Claims 30-35 and 47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being

indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which

applicant regards as the invention.

8.   Claims 30, 31, 33, 34, and 35 recite the limitation "the network management

information". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claims.

9.   Claim 32 recites the limitation "the network management". There is insufficient

antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

10.   Claims 47 and 48 recite the limitation "the indicated network function". There is

insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claims.

11.   Claim 47 recites the limitation "the updated network information". There is insufficient

antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

12.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

13.   Claims 49 and 50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Prithviraj et al. (U.S. 5,987,513, hereinafter "Prithviraj") in view of Adams et al. (U.S.

6,185,566, hereinafter "Adams").

14.   With respect to claim 49, Prithviraj teaches a system for network management using a

computer [fig. 1 (160)], including:

- a computer [fig. 1 (160)] running a browser application [col. 22 line 22, Java enabled

browser];

- a synchronization server [fig. 1 (180)], in communication with the computer [In order to

contact NMS 101 (as disclosed by col. 23 lines 3-4 et al.) the computer (160) must

communicate through the synchronization server (180)., see fig. 1]; and

- a network management server [fig. 1 (NMS 101)], in communication with the

synchronization server [see explanation of the synchronization server].

15.   Prithviraj does not expressly teach the method of network management using a palm-

sized computer. Nonetheless, it was well known in the art to provide a portable computer for

performing network management, as evidenced by Adams. In a similar art, Adams teaches

providing a portable computer for performing network management [col. 1 lines 55-57]. Given

the teachings of Adams it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use a

palm-sized computer (e.g. the palm sized computer shown in U.S. 5,862,321 fig. 2) to perform

the method taught by Prithviraj. The motivation for doing so would have been because there is a

need for computers that perform network management that are as portable as possible, due to the

fact that in some networking environments, using non-portable computers for performing

network management is impractical [Adams col. 1 lines 45-50].

16.   With respect to claim 50, Prithviraj-Adams teaches the system for network management

applied to claim 49. Prithviraj-Adams does not expressly teach that the palm-sized computer is

smaller than four inches by six inches. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary

skill in the art to provide a palm-sized computer that is smaller than four inches by six inches.

The motivation for doing so would have been because there is a need for computers that perform

network management functions that are as portable as possible [as discussed in the rejection of

claim 1].

17.   Claims 1, 2, 6-11, 24-26, 30-35, 48, and 53-60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as

being unpatentable over Prithviraj in view of Adams and further in view of Brim (U.S.

5,835,914).

18.   With respect to claim 1, Prithviraj teaches a method of network management using a

computer [fig. 1 (160)], including the steps of:

- accessing a page containing network management information [fig. 9 (940), col. 23 lines

  27-29];

- indicating a network management function [Col. 22 lines 6-10 disclose that the

  embodiment of fig. 9 is related to the embodiment of col. 21 lines 48+ in that the user selects

  network elements in the embodiment of fig. 9 in order to perform configuration management

  of elements as disclosed in the embodiment of col. 21 lines 48+. After selecting a network

  element the user indicates a network management function as disclosed in col. 21 line 61 –

  col. 22 line 3.];

- connecting to a synchronization server [A connection to fig. 1 (150) (a synchronization

  server) must be made in order to pass the information indicating the addition, deletion, or

  modification of rows to NMS 101 as disclosed in col. 21 lines 61-66];

- transmitting the indicated network management function to the synchronization server

  [col. 21 lines 61-66]; and.

- receiving updated network management information, responsive to the indicated network

  management function [Col. 21 lines 22-23 teach that the display is updated periodically. It

  was very well known in the art that when submitting a form the display is refreshed which is

  receiving updated network information in the current context.].

19.   Prithviraj does not expressly teach the method of network management using a palm-

sized computer. Nonetheless, it was well known in the art to provide a portable computer for

performing network management functions, as evidenced by Adams. In a similar art, Adams

teaches providing a portable computer for performing network management functions [col. 1

lines 55-57]. Given the teachings of Adams it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill

in the art to use a palm-sized computer (e.g. the palm sized computer shown in U.S. 5,862,321

fig. 2) to perform the method taught by Prithviraj. The motivation for doing so would have been

because there is a need for computers that perform network management functions that are as

portable as possible, due to the fact that in some networking environments, using non-portable

computers for performing network management functions is impractical [Adams col. 1 lines 45-

50].

20.   Prithviraj-Adams does not expressly teach accessing the page wherein the page is stored

on the palm-sized computer. Nonetheless, it was well known in the art that some web browsers

cache web pages, as evidenced by Brim. In a similar art, Brim teaches that some web browsers cache web pages [col. 5 lines 19-21]. Given the teachings of Brim it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to cache the page taught by Prithviraj-Adams. Caching the page would store the page on the palm-sized computer. The motivation for doing so would have been to so that the page loads more quickly.

21.   With respect to claim 6, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network management applied to claim 1. Prithviraj further discloses changing the configuration of a device [col. 21 line 61 – col. 22 line 3, parameters are varied and sent to network elements as private SNMP messages].

22.   With respect to claim 7, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network management applied to claim 1. Prithviraj further discloses changing the inventory description of a device [col. 21 line 61 – col. 22 line 3, Parameters are varied and sent to network elements as private SNMP messages. Varying parameters changes the description of the operating characteristics of a device.].

23.   With respect to claim 8, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network management applied to claim 1. Prithviraj further discloses an embodiment in which the network management function is accessing historical information about a device [col. 24 line 66 – col. 25 line 8, accessing network events during a specified time period]. Given the further teachings of Prithviraj it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to adapt the network

management function to comprise accessing historical information about a device. The

motivation for doing so would have been so that a user could troubleshoot problems with the

network.

24.   With respect to claim 9, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network

management applied to claim 1. Prithviraj further discloses that the network management

function is accessing web based support information [Any information in fig. 8B could be

considered web based support information. The information is displayed via a web browser.].

25.   With respect to claim 10, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network

management applied to claim 1. Prithviraj further discloses that the network management

function is intranet based support information [The elements are on an intranet (fig. 1 (124)).

Therefore the information of fig. 8B is intranet based support information.].

26.   With respect to claim 11, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network

management applied to claim 1. Prithviraj further discloses that the network management

function is server based support information [As disclosed in col. 19 lines 24-26, the information

is returned by a server (NMS 101), and is therefore server based support information.].

27.   With respect to claim 24, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network

management applied to claim 1. Prithviraj further discloses the steps of transmitting the indicated

network function from the synchronization server to a network management server and

transmitting the updated network information from the network management server to the

synchronization server [see the configuration of fig. 1].

28.   With respect to claim 25, Prithviraj teaches a method of network management using a

computer [fig. 1 (160)], including the steps of:

*   accessing a page containing network inventory scope choices [fig. 9 (940), col. 23 lines

    27-29];

*   indicating a scope of network inventory information [fig. 12 (1210), col. 23 lines 54-56,

    the user selects a desired network element (scope of network inventory information)];

*   connecting to a synchronization server [A connection to fig. 1 (150) (a synchronization

    server) must be made in order to pass the information indicating the desired network element

    to NMS 101 as disclosed in col. 23 lines 56-58.];

*   transmitting the indicated scope of network inventory information to the synchronization

    server [col. 23 lines 56-58]; and

*   receiving updated network inventory information, responsive to the indicated scope of

    network inventory information [fig. 12 (1270), col. 24 lines 53-59].

29.   Prithviraj does not expressly teach the method of network management using a palm-

sized computer. Nonetheless, it was well known in the art to provide a portable computer for

performing network management functions, as evidenced by Adams. In a similar art, Adams

teaches providing a portable computer for performing network management functions [col. 1

lines 55-57]. Given the teachings of Adams it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill

in the art to use a palm-sized computer (e.g. the palm sized computer shown in U.S. 5,862,321

fig. 2) to perform the method taught by Prithviraj. The motivation for doing so would have been because there is a need for computers that perform network management functions that are as portable as possible, due to the fact that in some networking environments, using non-portable computers for performing network management functions is impractical [Adams col. 1 lines 45-50].

30.   Prithviraj-Adams does not expressly teach accessing the page wherein the page is stored on the palm-sized computer. Nonetheless, it was well known in the art that some web browsers cache web pages, as evidenced by Brim. In a similar art, Brim teaches that some web browsers cache web pages [col. 5 lines 19-21]. Given the teachings of Brim it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to cache the page taught by Prithviraj-Adams. Caching the page would store the page on the palm-sized computer. The motivation for doing so would have been to so that the page loads more quickly.

31.   With respect to claims 2 and 26, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network management applied to claim 1 and the method of network inventory management applied to claim 25. Prithviraj-Adams-Brim does not expressly teach that the palm-sized computer is smaller than four inches by six inches. Nonetheless, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a palm-sized computer that is smaller than four inches by six inches. The motivation for doing so would have been because there is a need for computers that perform network management functions that are as portable as possible [as discussed in the rejection of claim 1].

32.   With respect to claim 30, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network

inventory management applied to claim 25. Prithviraj further discloses receiving network

management information including configuration of a device [col. 21 line 61 – col. 22 line 3,

parameters are varied and sent to network elements as private SNMP messages].

33.   With respect to claim 31, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network

inventory management applied to claim 25. Prithviraj further discloses receiving network

management information including an inventory description of a device [col. 21 line 61 – col. 22

line 3, Parameters are varied and sent to network elements as private SNMP messages. Varying

parameters changes the operating description of a device.]

34.   With respect to claim 32, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network

inventory management applied to claim 25. Prithviraj further discloses an embodiment in which

network management information is received including historical information about performance

of a device [col. 24 line 66 – col. 25 line 8, network events during a specified time period].

35.   With respect to claim 33, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network

inventory management applied to claim 25. Prithviraj further discloses receiving network

management information including web based support information [Any information in fig. 8B

could be considered web based support information. The information is displayed via a web

browser.].

36.   With respect to claim 34, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network

inventory management applied to claim 25. Prithviraj further discloses receiving network

management information including intranet based support information [The elements are on an

intranet (fig. 1 (124)). Therefore the information of fig. 8B is intranet based support

information.].

37.   With respect to claim 35, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network

inventory management applied to claim 25. Prithviraj further discloses receiving network

management information including server based support information [As disclosed in col. 19

lines 24-26, the information is returned by a server (NMS 101), and is therefore server based

support information.].

38.   With respect to claim 48, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network

inventory management applied to claim 25. Prithviraj further discloses the steps of transmitting

an indicated network function [fig. 12 (1210), col. 23 lines 54-56] from the synchronization

server [fig. 1 (150)] to a network management server [fig. 1 (NMS 101), col. 23 lines 56-58, The

information must pass through fig. 1 (150) to reach NMS 101.] and transmitting updated network

information from the network management server to the synchronization server [col. 24 lines 53-

59, The updated data is sent back along the reverse path.].

39.   With respect to claim 53, Prithviraj-Adams teaches the system for network management

applied to claim 49. Prithviraj further discloses a form adapted to request a device configuration

[col. 23 lines 54-58 (applet), col. 24 lines 53-59 (device information is returned)]. Prithviraj-Adams does not teach that the palm-sized compter stores the form. Nonetheless, it was well known in the art that some web browsers cache web pages, as evidenced by Brim. In a similar art, Brim teaches that some web browsers cache web pages [col. 5 lines 19-21]. Given the teachings of Brim it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to cache the form taught by Prithviraj-Adams. Caching the form would store the form on the palm-sized computer. The motivation for doing so would have been to so that the form loads more quickly.

40.   With respect to claim 54, Prithviraj-Adams teaches the system for network management applied to claim 49. Prithviraj further discloses a form adapted to report a device configuration [col. 23 lines 54-58 (applet), col. 24 lines 53-59 (device information is returned)]. Prithviraj-Adams does not teach that the palm-sized compter stores the form. Nonetheless, it was well known in the art that some web browsers cache web pages, as evidenced by Brim. In a similar art, Brim teaches that some web browsers cache web pages [col. 5 lines 19-21]. Given the teachings of Brim it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to cache the form taught by Prithviraj-Adams. Caching the form would store the form on the palm-sized computer. The motivation for doing so would have been to so that the form loads more quickly.

41.   With respect to claim 55, Prithviraj-Adams teaches the system for network management applied to claim 49. Prithviraj further discloses a form adapted to modify a device configuration [see fig. 8B, col. 21 line 61 – col. 22 line 3, Col. 22 lines 6-10 disclose that the embodiment of fig. 9 is related to the embodiment of col. 21 lines 48+ in that the user selects network elements

in the embodiment of fig. 9 in order to perform configuration management of elements as disclosed in the embodiment of col. 21 lines 48+.]. Prithviraj-Adams does not teach that the palm-sized compter stores the form. Nonetheless, it was well known in the art that some web browsers cache web pages, as evidenced by Brim. In a similar art, Brim teaches that some web browsers cache web pages [col. 5 lines 19-21]. Given the teachings of Brim it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to cache the form taught by Prithviraj-Adams. Caching the form would store the form on the palm-sized computer. The motivation for doing so would have been to so that the form loads more quickly.

42.   With respect to claim 56, Prithviraj-Adams teaches the system for network management applied to claim 49. Prithviraj further discloses a form adapted to request a device inventory description [col. 23 lines 54-58 (applet), col. 24 lines 53-59 (the device inventory description is returned)]. Prithviraj-Adams does not teach that the palm-sized compter stores the form. Nonetheless, it was well known in the art that some web browsers cache web pages, as evidenced by Brim. In a similar art, Brim teaches that some web browsers cache web pages [col. 5 lines 19-21]. Given the teachings of Brim it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to cache the form taught by Prithviraj-Adams. Caching the form would store the form on the palm-sized computer. The motivation for doing so would have been to so that the form loads more quickly.

43.   With respect to claim 57, Prithviraj-Adams teaches the system for network management applied to claim 49. Prithviraj further discloses a form adapted to report a device inventory

description [col. 23 lines 54-58 (applet), col. 24 lines 53-59 (the device inventory description is returned)]. Prithviraj-Adams does not teach that the palm-sized compter stores the form. Nonetheless, it was well known in the art that some web browsers cache web pages, as evidenced by Brim. In a similar art, Brim teaches that some web browsers cache web pages [col. 5 lines 19-21]. Given the teachings of Brim it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to cache the form taught by Prithviraj-Adams. Caching the form would store the form on the palm-sized computer. The motivation for doing so would have been to so that the form loads more quickly.

44.   With respect to claim 58, Prithviraj-Adams teaches the system for network management applied to claim 49. Prithviraj further discloses a form adapted to modify a device inventory description [Col. 22 lines 6-10 disclose that the embodiment of fig. 9 is related to the embodiment of col. 21 lines 48+ in that the user selects network elements in the embodiment of fig. 9 in order to perform configuration management of elements as disclosed in the embodiment of col. 21 lines 48+., see fig. 8B, col. 21 line 61 – col. 22 line 3, Sending the appropriate SNMP messages to the device modifies the inventory description.]. Prithviraj-Adams does not teach that the palm-sized compter stores the form. Nonetheless, it was well known in the art that some web browsers cache web pages, as evidenced by Brim. In a similar art, Brim teaches that some web browsers cache web pages [col. 5 lines 19-21]. Given the teachings of Brim it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to cache the form taught by Prithviraj-Adams. Caching the form would store the form on the palm-sized computer. The motivation for doing so would have been to so that the form loads more quickly.

45.   With respect to claim 59, Prithviraj-Adams teaches the system for network management

applied to claim 49. Prithviraj further discloses a form adapted to request historical information

about a device [the error conditions applet in col. 24 line 66 – col. 25 line 3, col. 25 lines 3-8

(network events during a specified time period are historical information)]. Prithviraj-Adams

does not teach that the palm-sized compter stores the form. Nonetheless, it was well known in

the art that some web browsers cache web pages, as evidenced by Brim. In a similar art, Brim

teaches that some web browsers cache web pages [col. 5 lines 19-21]. Given the teachings of

Brim it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to cache the form taught by

Prithviraj-Adams. Caching the form would store the form on the palm-sized computer. The

motivation for doing so would have been to so that the form loads more quickly.

46.   With respect to claim 60, Prithviraj-Adams teaches the system for network management

applied to claim 49. Prithviraj further discloses a form adapted to report historical information

about a device [the applet modules in col. 25 lines 3-8, network events during a specified time

period are historical information]. Prithviraj-Adams does not teach that the palm-sized compter

stores the form. Nonetheless, it was well known in the art that some web browsers cache web

pages, as evidenced by Brim. In a similar art, Brim teaches that some web browsers cache web

pages [col. 5 lines 19-21]. Given the teachings of Brim it would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill in the art to cache the form taught by Prithviraj-Adams. Caching the form would

store the form on the palm-sized computer. The motivation for doing so would have been to so

that the form loads more quickly.

47.   Claims 3, 4, 27, and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Prithviraj in view of Adams, further in view of Brim, and further in view of Flack et al. (U.S.

6,288,704, hereinafter "Flack").

48.   With respect to claims 3 and 27, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network

management applied to claim 1 and the method of network inventory management applied to

claim 25. Prithviraj-Adams-Brim does not expressly teach that the palm-sized computer has a

display that is compatible with 160 by 160 pixels. Nonetheless, it was well known in the art to

provide a display that is compatible with 160 by 160 pixels, as evidenced by Flack. In a similar

art, Flack discloses that 160 pixel by 160 pixel displays were well known [col. 2 lines 26-28].

Given the teachings of Flack it would have been obvious to provide a display that is compatible

with 160 by 160 pixels. The motivation for doing so would have been because 160 by 160 pixel

displays were an industry standard [col. 2 lines 26-28].

49.   With respect to claims 4 and 28, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network

management applied to claim 1 and the method of network inventory management applied to

claim 25. Prithviraj-Adams-Brim does not expressly teach that the palm-sized computer has a

display that is 160 by 160 pixels. Nonetheless, it was well known in the art to provide a display

that is 160 by 160 pixels, as evidenced by Flack. In a similar art, Flack discloses that 160 pixel

by 160 pixel displays were well known [col. 2 lines 26-28]. Given the teachings of Flack it

would have been obvious to provide a display that is 160 by 160 pixels. The motivation for doing

so would have been because 160 by 160 pixel displays were an industry standard.

50.   Claims 5 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Prithviraj

in view of Adams, further in view of Brim, and further in view of Lamming et al. (U.S.

5,862,321, hereinafter "Lamming").

51.   With respect to claims 5 and 29, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network

management applied to claim 1 and the method of network inventory management applied to

claim 25. Prithviraj-Adams-Brim does not expressly teach that the palm-sized computer has a

pressure sensitive display and that the indicating steps includes pressing a stylus against the

display. It was well known in the art to provide a palm-sized computer with a pressure-sensitive

display, as evidenced by Lamming. In a similar art, Lamming discloses a palm-sized computer

with a stylus and a pressure-sensitive display [fig. 2]. Given the teachings of Lamming it would

have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide the palm-sized computer with a

pressure sensitive display, in which case the indicating step would include pressing the stylus

against the display. The motivation for doing so would have been to eliminate the need for a

keyboard, making the computer more portable.

52.   Claims 12, 13, 36, and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Prithviraj in view of Adams, further in view of Brim, and further in view of Haitani et al. (U.S.

5,900,875).

53.   With respect to claims 12 and 36, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network

management applied to claim 1 and the method of network inventory management applied to

claim 25. Prithviraj-Adams-Brim does not expressly teach that connecting to the synchronization

server includes placing the palm-sized computer in a communications cradle and pressing a hot

sync button. Nonetheless, it was well known in the art to connect to a palm-sized computer to a

synchronization server by placing the computer in a communications cradle and pressing a hot

sync button, as evidenced by Haitani. In a similar art, Haitani teaches connecting a palm-sized

computer to a synchronization server by placing the computer in a communications cradle and

pressing a hot sync button [col. 5 lines 30-47]. Given the teachings of Haitani it would have been

obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to connect to the synchronization server by placing the

palm-sized computer in a communications cradle and pressing a hot sync button. The motivation

for doing so would have been to perform the network management function (claim 12) and to use

the network inventory management method (claim 36) when there is no wireless network

available.

54.   With respect to claims 13 and 37, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network

management applied to claim 12 and the method of network inventory management applied to

claim 36. Haitani further discloses that pressing the hot sync button starts a synchronization

server [col. 5 lines 36-39]. Given the further teachings of Haitani it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to start the synchronization server when a user presses the hot sync button. The motivation for doing so would have been to perform the network management function (claim 13) and to use the network inventory management method (claim 37) when the synchronization server is not running.

55.   Claims 14, 16, 21, 22, 38, 40, 45, and 46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Prithviraj in view of Adams, further in view of Brim, and further in view of Vatanen (U.S. 6,237,093).

56.   With respect to claims 14 and 38, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network management applied to claim 1 and the method of network inventory management applied to claim 25. Prithviraj further discloses that connecting to the synchronization server includes connecting to a communication server [fig. 1 (180)] in communication with the synchronization server [A connection to gateway 180 (a communication server) must be made in order to pass the information indicating the desired network element to NMS 101 as disclosed in col. 23 lines 56-58. See fig. 1.] Prithviraj-Adams-Brim does not expressly teach that the communications server is a wireless communications server that uses a radio signal. Nonetheless, it was well known in the art to use a radio signal to connect a portable device to a communication server, as evidenced by Vatanen. In a similar art, Vatanen teaches connecting a portable device [fig. 1 (4)] to a communication server [fig. 1 (5)] using a radio signal [fig. 1 (3)]. Given the teachings of Vatanen

it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use a radio signal to connect the

palm-sized computer to the communication server. The motivation for doing so would have been

because there is a need for computers that perform network management functions that are as

portable as possible [as discussed in the rejection of claims 1 and 25].

57.   With respect to claims 16 and 40, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network

management applied to claim 14 and the method of network inventory management applied to

claim 38. Vatanen further discloses that encrypting data on a mobile communication network

was well known in the art [col. 1 lines 50-53]. Given the further teachings of Vatanen it would

have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to encrypt data transmitted over the

connection with gateway 180 (the communication server). The motivation for doing so would

have been to provide secure communication with the communication server.

58.   With respect to claim 21, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim-Vatanen teaches the method of network

management applied to claim 14. Prithviraj further teaches that the page includes a form [an

applet can be considered a form] and data [col. 22 lines 58-59, topology] and the updated

network information includes an updated version of some of the data [an updated version of

information pertaining to specified network elements, see fig. 8B].

59.   With respect to claim 22, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim-Vatanen teaches the method of network

management applied to claim 14. Prithviraj further teaches that the page includes a form [an

applet can be considered a form] and data [col. 22 lines 58-59, topology] and the updated

network information includes an updated version of some of the data [see fig. 8B] and does not

include the form [there is no applet in fig. 8B].

60.   With respect to claim 45, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim-Vatanen teaches the method of network

inventory management applied to claim 38. Prithviraj further teaches that the page includes a

form [an applet is a type of form] and data [col. 22 lines 58-59, topology information] and the

updated network management information includes an updated version of some of the data [col.

24 lines 53-59, Data is dynamically retrieved and sent back to computer 160.].

61.   With respect to claim 46, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim-Vatanen teaches the method of network

management applied to claim 14. Prithviraj further teaches that the page includes a form [an

applet is a type of form] and data [col. 22 lines 58-59, topology information] and updated

network management information includes an updated version of some of the data [col. 24 lines

53-55, The data is retrieved dynamically.] and does not include the form [col. 53 lines 53-59

make no mention of the applet.].

62.   Claims 15 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Prithviraj in view of Adams, further in view of Brim, further in view of Vatanen, and further in

view of Haitani.

63.   With respect to claims 15 and 39, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim-Vatanen teaches the method of

network management applied to claim 14. The instant teachings do not expressly teach starting

the synchronization server when needed. Nonetheless, starting a synchronization server when

needed was well known, as evidenced by Haitani. In a similar art, Haitani teaches connecting to

a synchronization server and starting the synchronization server when needed [col. 5 lines 36-

39]. Given the teachings of Haitani it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art

to start the synchronization server when needed. The motivation for doing so would have been to

perform the network management function when the synchronization server is shut down.

64.   Claims 17 and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Prithviraj in view of Adams, further in view of Brim, further in view of Shipley (U.S.

5,818,617).

65.   With respect to claims 17 and 41, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network

management applied to claim 1 and the method of network inventory management applied to

claim 40. Prithviraj-Adams-Brim does not expressly teach that connecting to the synchronization

server includes using an infrared signal. Nonetheless, it was well known in the art to connect a

portable computer to a network using an infrared signal, as evidenced by Shipley. In a similar

art, Shipley teaches connecting a portable computer to a network using an infrared signal [col. 16

lines 17-19]. Given the teachings of Shipley it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill

in the art to connect the palm-sized computer to the network using an infrared signal. The

motivation for doing so would have been so that the palm-sized computer does not require wires

[Shipley col. 16 lines 14-16], and is therefore more portable.

66.   Claims 18-20 and 42-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Prithviraj in view of Adams, further in view of Brim, further in view of Lincke et al. (U.S.

6,253,326, hereinafter "Lincke").

67.   With respect to claims 18 and 42, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network

management applied to claim 1 and the method of network inventory management applied to

claim 40. Prithviraj-Adams-Brim does not expressly teach that the transmitting and receiving

include encoding and decoding in a compact markup language. Nonetheless, a handheld

computer that transmits and receives data that is encoded and decoded in a compact markup

language was well known, as evidenced by Lincke. In a similar art, Lincke teaches a handheld

computer [fig. 1 (100)] that transmits [fig. 1 (122)] and receives [fig. 1 (132)] data that is

encoded and decoded in a compact markup language [col. 9 lines 42-52, col. 21 lines 58-64,

When the CML data is returned it must be decoded for display on screen 101.]. Given the

teachings of Lincke it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to adapt the

transmitting and receiving to include encoding and decoding in the compact markup language

taught by Lincke. The motivation for doing so would have been because a compact markup

language requires far fewer bytes than typically required [col. 9 lines 45-48], and therefore could

provide better query response performance.

68.   With respect to claims 19 and 43, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim-Lincke teaches the method of

network management applied to claim 18 and the method of network inventory management

applied to claim 42. Lincke further discloses that the compact markup language utilizes five-bit

encoding of characters [col. 21 lines 58-64].

69.   With respect to claims 20 and 44, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim-Lincke teaches the method of

network management applied to claim 18 and the method of network inventory management

applied to claim 42. Lincke further discloses that the compact markup language utilizes variable

length strings for markup tags and characters [col. 24 lines 34-36, The tag ID is 8 or 16 bits

(variable length).].

70.   Claims 23 and 47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Prithviraj in view of Adams, further in view of Brim, and further in view of Scholl et al. (U.S.

5,742,762, hereinafter "Scholl").

71.   With respect to claim 23, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network

management applied to claim 1. Prithviraj-Adams-Brim does not expressly teach including the

steps of transmitting the indicated network function from the synchronization server to a proxy

server and transmitting the updated network information from the proxy server to the

synchronization server. Nonetheless, providing a proxy server in this context was well known, as

evidenced by Scholl. In a similar art, Scholl discloses a synchronization server [fig. 3 (3)] that

provides access to network management functions [col. 6 lines 4-6] and a proxy server [fig. 3

(5)] wherein network management functions are transmitted from the synchronization server to

the proxy server [col. 6 lines 9-15] and updated network information is transmitted from the

proxy server to the synchronization server [fig. 3 (response), col. 6 lines 32-36]. Given the

teachings of Scholl it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a

proxy server that receives and responds to the network management functions from the

synchronization server. The motivation for doing so would have been so that NMS 101 could

provide network management services for multiple networks [Scholl fig. 3 (6)].

72.   With respect to claim 47, Prithviraj-Adams-Brim teaches the method of network

management applied to claim 1. Prithviraj-Adams-Brim does not expressly teach including the

steps of transmitting an indicated network function from the synchronization server to a proxy

server and transmitting updated network information from the proxy server to the

synchronization server. Nonetheless, providing a proxy server in this context was well known, as

evidenced by Scholl. In a similar art, Scholl discloses a synchronization server [fig. 3 (3)] that

provides access to network management functions [col. 6 lines 4-6] and a proxy server [fig. 3

(5)] wherein network management functions are transmitted from the synchronization server to

the proxy server [col. 6 lines 9-15] and updated network information is transmitted from the

proxy server to the synchronization server [fig. 3 (response), col. 6 lines 32-36]. Given the

teachings of Scholl it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a

proxy server that receives and responds to indicated network management functions from the

synchronization server. The motivation for doing so would have been so that NMS 101 could

provide network management services for multiple networks [Scholl fig. 3 (6)].

73.   Claim 51 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Prithviraj in view

of Adams, and further in view of Flack.

74.   With respect to claim 51, Prithviraj-Adams teaches the system for network management

applied to claim 49. Prithviraj-Adams does not expressly teach that the palm-sized computer has

a display that is 160 by 160 pixels. Nonetheless, it was well known in the art to provide a display

that is compatible with 160 by 160 pixels, as evidenced by Flack. In a similar art, Flack discloses

that 160 pixel by 160 pixel displays were well known [col. 2 lines 26-28]. Given the teachings of

Flack it would have been obvious to provide a display that is compatible with 160 by 160 pixels.

The motivation for doing so would have been because 160 by 160 pixel displays were an

industry standard [Flack col. 2 lines 26-28].

75.   Claim 52 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Prithviraj in view

of Adams, and further in view of Lamming.

76.   With respect to claim 52, Prithviraj-Adams teaches the system for network management

applied to claim 49. Prithviraj-Adams does not expressly teach that the palm-sized computer has

a pressure-sensitive display for input. It was well known in the art to provide a palm-sized

computer with a pressure-sensitive display for input, as evidenced by Lamming. In a similar art,

Lamming discloses a palm-sized computer with a pressure sensitive display for input [fig. 2].

Given the teachings of Lamming it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to

provide the palm-sized computer with a pressure sensitive display for input. The motivation for

doing so would have been to eliminate the need for a keyboard, making the computer more

portable.

77.   Claim 61 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Prithviraj in view

of Adams, and further in view of Haitani.

78.   With respect to claim 61, Prithviraj-Adams teaches the system for network management

applied to claim 49. Prithviraj-Adams does not expressly teach including a communications

cradle which the palm-sized computer engages and communicates with, said communications

cradle in communication with the network management server. Nonetheless, it was well known

in the art to connect a palm-sized computer to a network management server by placing the

computer in a communications cradle, as evidenced by Haitani. In a similar art, Haitani teaches

connecting a palm-sized computer to a network management server by placing the computer in a

communications cradle [col. 5 lines 30-47]. Given the teachings of Haitani it would have been

obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include a communications cradle which the palm-

size computer engages and communicates with, said communications cradle in communication

with the network management server. The motivation for doing so would have been so that the

computer could communicate with the network management server when there is no wireless

network available.

79.   Claim 62 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Prithviraj in view

of Adams, and further in view of Vatanen.

80.   With respect to claim 62, Prithviraj-Adams teaches the system for network management

applied to claim 49. Prithviraj-Adams does not expressly teach that the communication between

the palm-sized computer and the synchronization server includes a radio link. Nonetheless, it

was well known in the art to connect a palm-sized device to a communication server using a

radio link. In a similar art, Vatanen teaches connecting a palm-sized device [fig. 1 (4)] to a

communication server [fig. 1 (5)] using a radio signal [fig. 1 (3)]. Given the teachings of Vatanen

it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use a radio link to connect the

palm-sized computer to the communications server. The motivation for doing so would have

been because there is a need for computers that perform network management functions that are

as portable as possible [as discussed in the rejection of claim 49].

81.   Claim 63 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Prithviraj in view

of Adams, and further in view of Shipley.

82.   With respect to claim 63, Prithviraj-Adams teaches the system for network management

applied to claim 49. Prithviraj-Adams does not expressly teach that the communication between

the palm-sized computer and the synchronization server includes an infrared link. Nonetheless, it

was well known in the art to connect a portable computer to a network using an infrared link, as

evidenced by Shipley. In a similar art, Shipley discloses connecting a portable computer to a

network using an infrared link [col. 16 lines 17-19]. Given the teachings of Shipley it would have

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to connect the palm-sized computer to the

synchronization server using an infrared link. The motivation for doing so would have been so

that the palm-sized computer does not require wires [Shipley col. 16 lines 14-16].

Conclusion

83.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's

disclosure.

84.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Philip S. Scuderi whose telephone number is (571) 272-5865.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8am-5pm.

85.   If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Glenton B. Burgess can be reached on (703) 305-4792. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

86.   Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PSS

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